

Waukesha County

Humane Officer's Corner

By Jill Posanski

Division of Environmental Health Ph.262-896-8300 email: jposanski@waukeshacounty.gov www.waukeshacounty.gov/humane

January 2006

Welcome to this new feature in the shelter's newsletter. The hope and intent is to bring useful, humane animal information to residents of our community. Accurate information, especially in times of urgency, is vital for promptly getting the right resources where they are needed.

Waukesha County has two full time and one on-call humane officers. Our duties encompass animal abuse investigations, emergency assistance to law enforcement agencies, rabies control, West Nile Virus surveillance, and a humane/rabies educational outreach program. We can be contacted during business hours at 262-896-8300, and for after-hour emergencies through Waukesha County Communication Center, 262-548-7117.

Problems we don't handle include such things as barking dogs, stray animals and nuisance wildlife. For these issues, we direct callers to their local law enforcement agencies. Each community in Waukesha County has its own animal control plan. Our website, as shown above, lists agencies and phone numbers for each community. We refer people to wildlife rehabilitators, such as Wildlife in Need, 262-968-5075, for nuisance wildlife problems.

We are proud of our humane/rabies educational programs, and have presented to many adult and youth groups on animal bite prevention, rabies control and Humane Officer careers. If you have a group that would enjoy learning more about any of these topics, just call, or send us an email. Our presentations are free, available day or evening, run between 20-60 minutes, and can be held at your meeting place or ours. We would enjoy sharing with your group.